

REMARKS

Claims 1-43 are pending in this application.

Claim 43 is withdrawn from consideration.

Claims 1-42 are subject to an additional restriction requirement.

The office action dated July 24, 2008 indicates that additional restriction of claims 1-42 is required. The office action alleges that Figures 2-5 and 8 show distinct species having mutually exclusive characteristics.

The specification does not support the allegation. Figure 2 illustrates blocks 110, 118, 120 and 122. Paragraph 19 states that Figure 3 shows block 110 in greater detail. Therefore, Figures 2 and 3 are not mutually exclusive.

Paragraph 19 also states that Figure 8 shows block 118 in greater detail. Therefore, Figures 2 and 8 are not mutually exclusive.

Figure 3 shows a block 154. Paragraph 20 states that Figure 4 shows this block in greater detail. Therefore, Figures 3 and 4 are not mutually exclusive. By extension, Figures 2 and 4 are not mutually exclusive.

Figure 3 also shows a block 156. Paragraph 22 states that Figure 5 shows an exemplary process for block 156. Therefore, Figures 3 and 5 are not mutually exclusive. By extension, Figures 2 and 5 are not mutually exclusive.

Thus, Figures 2-5 and 9 do not show distinct species having mutually exclusive characteristics.

Nevertheless, a provisional election is required, so **the alleged species of Figure 2 is provisionally elected. Therefore, claims 1-42 should be examined.**

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Please note that an election of the alleged species of Figure 3 would also result in claims 1-42 being examined.

If the examiner disagrees with this provisional election, the examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned to discuss the matter before issuing another office action.

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